

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning at line 11 of page 8 to read:

Figures 6, 7 and 9 illustrate various preferred arrangements for connecting one set of railings constructed according to the present invention to a support surface or a second set of railings. Figure 6 shows a first set of railings 70 configured with an essentially horizontal assembled top railing member 4 and a second set of railings 72 configured with an angled assembled top railing member. A connection member 74 is fitted over the ends of the top rail member 4 to join the first and second sets of railings. Connection member 74 includes two sleeves 75a and 75b adapted to fit over the adjacent ends of the railing members. In order to accommodate the change in angle between the horizontal and inclined top railings members, sleeves 75a and 75b are connected by pivoting joint 76. Figure 7 shows a preferred disassembled construction of joint 76. A circular housing 78 is formed in sleeve 75a to rotatably receive an annular flange 79 82 formed on sleeve 75b. The walls of sleeve 75b are cut away in an arcuate configuration about annular flange 79 82 to permit the insertion of the flange into the housing and mating of the sleeves for pivoting with respect to each other in the same vertical plane. A fastener 80 extends along the pivoting axis of the joint and engages against the outer faces of the sleeves to maintain the housing and sleeve in rotatable engagement.